

Compound Sentence or Complex Sentence?

7b. A **compound sentence** contains two or more independent clauses and no subordinate clauses.

EXAMPLE Today, ^Sno [✓]humans ^Slive [✓]on the island, but ^Sit [✓]is still home to a wide variety of birds.

INDEPENDENT CLAUSES Today, no humans live on the island
it is still home to a wide variety of birds

7c. A **complex sentence** contains one independent clause and at least one subordinate clause.

EXAMPLE Although ^Sno [✓]humans ^Slive [✓]on the island today, ^Sit [✓]is still home to a wide variety of birds.

INDEPENDENT CLAUSE it is still home to a wide variety of birds

SUBORDINATE CLAUSE Although no humans live on the island today

EXERCISE In each of the following sentences, draw one line under each subject and two lines under each verb. Then, on the line provided, identify the sentence by writing *Cd* for *compound* or *Cx* for *complex*.

Example Cx 1. Louisiana and Mississippi, which are two Southern states, border the Gulf of Mexico.

- _____ 1. Iowa is not near any oceans, but the Mississippi River makes up its eastern border.
- _____ 2. On the west coast, California borders Mexico, and Washington borders Canada.
- _____ 3. Hawaii is the only state that does not lie on the North American mainland.
- _____ 4. I learned that the northernmost state is Alaska.
- _____ 5. Texas is quite big, but Alaska is bigger.
- _____ 6. If you visit Death Valley in California, you will be 282 feet below sea level.
- _____ 7. The longest river in the United States is the Missouri River; the largest lake in the United States is Lake Michigan.
- _____ 8. Michigan, which resembles a mitten, sits between Lake Michigan and Lake Huron.
- _____ 9. I looked at a map, and then I showed Dana my home state.
- _____ 10. Dana lived in Canada before her family moved to New York, where her mother taught English.